



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

---

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)

---

**AUGUST 2, 2004**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE**  
**KANSAS CITY MAN PLEADS GUILTY**  
**TO ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City man pleaded guilty in federal court today to being a felon in possession of a firearm. Today's conviction, Graves said, marks additional progress under Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

**Terry D. Watts**, 24, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to being a felon in possession of a firearm.

By pleading guilty, **Watts** admitted that he was in possession of a Stollard Arms 9 mm semi-automatic pistol on May 29, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Watts** has two previous criminal felony convictions for possession of a controlled substance.

**Watts** was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 30, 2004, in Kansas City.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jess E. Michaelsen. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

**Project Ceasefire**

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

\*\*\*\*\*

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)